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**December 22, 1955**

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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# ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 54

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, DECEMBER 22, 1955

NUMBER 50



H. Armstrong Roberts

**May the Light that shone on that first Christmas Day  
Light your path throughout the New Year**

## The Christmas Spirit

By H. H. SMITH, SR.

Ashland, Va.

There is a narrow view of the observance of Christmas that leads many to regard it as altogether a matter of generous giving. If they are generous with their gifts — regardless of how they are bestowed — they feel that they have shown the true Christmas spirit. Some will give lavishly to their children but have slight concern for the many needy children in this troubled world.

It is not an easy matter to observe the Christmas spirit, for the true Christmas spirit means "having the Spirit of Christ." And note that "Spirit" here means the Holy Spirit of Christ dwelling in our hearts. With "Christ within us" we are not carried away by the allurements of the flesh that lead so many at this season to indulge in an orgy of drinking, gluttonous feasting and other dissipations. With the Spirit of Christ in our hearts we are readily moved to help others in both material and spiritual things. Here is an example of the Christmas spirit at its

best. The incident was reported in a religious periodical several years ago:

"It was Sunday night, December 7, in New York City. . . word had burst through every radio that Japan had attacked American outposts in the Pacific. . . the very atmosphere was electric. . . People were subdued and serious. . . none more than were the members of the Japanese Methodist Church who had gathered for their regular evening service, then dispersed to their homes.

"The hour was late and one Japanese Christian hailed a taxi to take him home. . . Arriving there, he was taking out his coin purse to pay his fare when the taxi driver said, with a note of genuine sympathy, 'I don't want your money, brother; you'll be needing it. . . ' and drove down the avenue.

"And that Japanese Christian walked up the steps to his door with a lighter heart than he had when he left his church a few minutes earlier."

## The Pastor-Denomination Relationship

By DALE COWLING, Pastor

Second Church, Little Rock

A busy pastor must decide what his relationship will be to his denomination. He will be tempted to dismiss all responsibilities toward the denomination with the reasoning that he has more than he can ever get done in his local church. This attitude is a fatal one, both for the pastor and his church, and for the denomination. Neither can fail or succeed without the other. There must be a wise relationship of co-operative service.

The pastor must never forget the fact that the denomination has done some wonderful things for him.

In the first place, the denomination has largely provided his training. The denomination gives much thought, effort, and money in order to maintain colleges and seminaries. The pastor owes more than he can ever know or repay to these institutions which provide for his education. The denomination has been wise in providing this training. The pastor is wise to recognize how much it means to him and how indebted he is for this training.

The denomination provides the pastor with proved methods by maintaining highly skilled personnel in every area of our work. The denomination is constantly seeking, testing, reviewing, and revising procedures and methods until concrete principles are well established. The pastor takes these methods and applies them in his local church, resulting in a better and most efficient program.

The denomination provides the pastor with a steady flow of materials. It would be tragic if each pastor were faced with the responsibility of planning, writing, and preparing the literature for his organizations. The denomination performs this service. The pastor would be greatly limited without this constant supply of high caliber materials.

The denomination provides the pastor with an atmosphere in which to work. The community in which he works respects the pastor because the denomination has built an honorable reputation.

In view of these and other contributions the denomination has made to the pastor

and his ministry, it is evident that the pastor should stand ready to serve the denomination. This does not mean that he should bow before the denomination. It does not mean that he should silence his voice against flaws in the denomination. It does not mean that he should be blind to areas where improvements are needed.

It does mean that the pastor is obligated to pray for the denomination. As the pastor expects his church members to pray for the church and for the church's ministry, even so should he be in daily prayer for God's guidance and blessings upon his denomination.

The pastor should guard his denomination. This means that he will dedicate himself to an intelligent understanding of the denomination and to help it to maintain right principles and objectives.

The pastor should be willing to serve his denomination. Often, he is called upon to assume some denominational responsibility which demands time and energy. He needs the time and energy in his own local church program. What will be his choice? He must give a wise amount of time to his denomination. It follows that his church must see the importance of the pastor's activities with regard to denominational work and must encourage the pastor to carry his share.

The pastor must be willing to co-operate with the denomination. We are held together in our program of work by voluntary co-operation.

The pastor should encourage denominational workers. He should look upon these workers as men and women called of God. He should recognize the many difficulties they face. He should realize that the nature of their work is to enlarge the vision of the convention constituency. This constant tension toward greater vision is often misunderstood, and the denominational worker is criticized and discouraged. The pastor should stand by, trust, and encourage him in his work.

## He Went Away

A Devotion by the Editor

"And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved."

This is one of the most tragic stories in the New Testament. But it is not the tragedy of a bad man. It is the tragedy of a good man, a man with high ideals, a man who was respected in the community, a man who held a position of honor and trust.

He was not an outlaw, hiding from justice; he was not a dissipated man wasting his powers in revelry and debauchery; he was not a dishonest man, cheating and swindling his fellowman; he was not characterized by many other things which stamp men as wicked and bad.

On the other hand, he was a man of great personal charm and winsomeness; it appears that he was sound physically and clean in his habits; he must have been morally upright and honorable; he was a just ruler, holding his responsibility as a trust; he was a man of wealth and wide influence; he was a young man, eager and reverent.

When he discovered what it would cost him to be a Christian, this young man hung his head and "went away grieved." It was a cause of disappointment that Christ could not receive him just as he was without any change on his part. He could find nothing wrong with himself, and to have someone else point out the one weakness in his life was more than he could accept with good grace.

People do not want to be reminded of the weakness in their characters, the failures in their lives, the deficiencies which are cheating them out of the best things of life. They become especially resentful when told that they are clinging to things which make it impossible for them to become Christian, that they must give these things up if they hope for eternal life. And like this young man, being unwilling to part with their cherished possessions, their pet sins, and favorite delights, they leave behind them the greatest of all riches, which are found only in Christ; they sacrifice the supreme joys of life for the temporary pleasures of earth's little day.

"Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.

"And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions" (Mark 10:21-22).

## ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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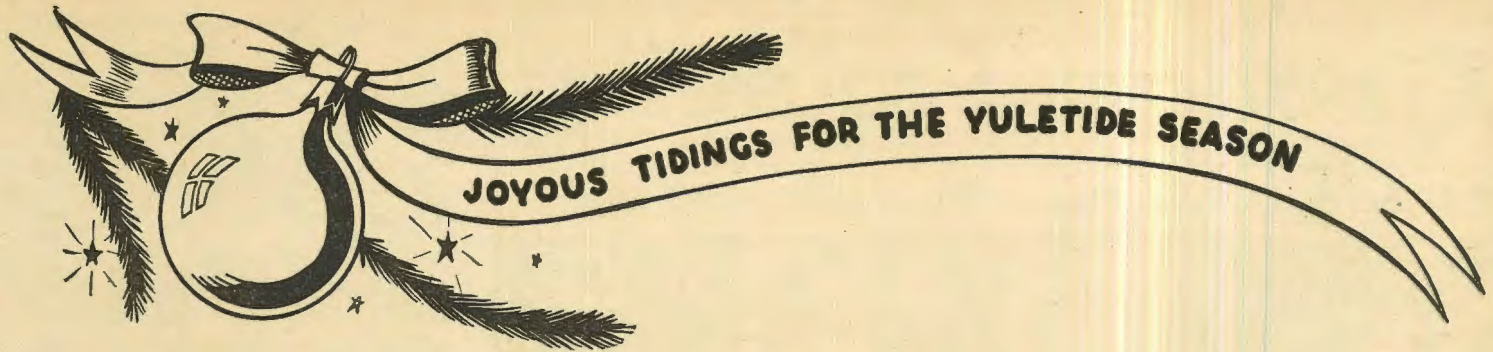
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## Christmas Greetings

Mrs. Duncan and myself extend Christmas greetings to all our friends throughout Arkansas, to the personnel at Baptist Headquarters and to every reader of the *Arkansas Baptist*.

We wish for each one of you the genuine Christian joys of this Christmas season. May the Christ of Christmas be as real to you as He was to the first generation of Christians on the day of Pentecost when they became

conscious of the presence of their triumphant and risen Lord. His presence can bring to you the greatest possible happiness, satisfaction, and contentment. In the midst of a commercialized Christmas we hope that you will not forget the babe that was born in Bethlehem and laid in a manger, whom the angels announced as the Savior of men.

We wish to acknowledge with grateful appreciation the greetings of many friends from

far and near and your solicitude for our health and happiness. Our hearts were cheered during our recent illnesses by the many expressions of concern and the assurances of your prayers.

May the Lord's blessings abide richly upon you during this Christmas season and throughout the new year.

*Editor and Mrs. B. H. Duncan*

## Is The Church Outdone?

By BURTON A. MILEY, *Pastor*  
*First Church, Springdale*

Commerce has intensely exploited the Christmas season. The season has been used to advertise anew the products of industry from cheese to Cadillacs. Whether these wares have any direct connection with the Christmas season is beside the question. The time of good cheer is used to catch the public eye. Commerce has acted wisely for its own good. Has the church been outdone by commerce? Do the wares of the church recede at Christmas time while others come to the front? Has the church lost the lead in its festive day?

Economics dictate that market be based on need. The popularity of the market is based on purchase power. There can be a prevalent need and a low popularity of market. Has the church found herself in an embarrassing position with wares no one cares to possess?

### Need of Man

What is the fundamental need of man? The greatest need of man is to realize his personal responsibility to God. This includes recognition and acceptance of any guilt. The duty to go to God for purging from this guilt is accepted. Man left God voluntarily through the enticement of the Serpent in the Garden, and man must return voluntarily by the pull of Christ through the Gospel message. Repentance is a personal matter whereby one changes his thought about God. The shunned God becomes more favorable. The individual's will is challenged. Previously he willed God out of his life. Repentance has the positive side to will God into his life. This produces a change of feeling. A new relation has been established. Forgiveness has operated from and to the individual. When one is unwilling to forgive the indication is that he feels no need to be forgiven. Realization that one is out of accord is the first step to get in accord. This new relation with God rejoices the individual who has had a need defined and supplied. The popularity

of the Gospel diminishes when many feel no need for repentance because no sin is felt. Wrong standards are used in the measurement of sin. As long as one is respectable he says, "I am no sinner." If one feels no guilt from conscience previously seared to moral insensitiveness he says: "I feel no guilt. I have no sin." The wares of the church need re-emphasized by the stout preaching of the gospel message on fundamental matters. What better time is there to bring this to pass than at the season which commemorates the birthday of the Lord Jesus?

### Display of Wares

Lovely tinsel, brilliant decorations, ornaments that tinkle and glisten are within show windows and advertisements during Christmas season. Does the church have an attractive display of its wares? And how is that display shaped? The stock clerk in any store is taught to fix displays so that all labels appear uniform. This is making things of one accord. Each speaks the same message. On the day of Pentecost the disciples were in one accord. There can be no better display of the wares of the church than for the membership to be in one accord. Two things pull people together. One is a common danger whereby petty differences are forgotten in the face of a common foe. The other is a common devotion which binds hearts and desire into one bundle. Both of these motives are used in displaying church wares. There is a common danger to and a common devotion among all of God's people.

The next display is that of being in one place. Pentecost found the people gathered within one place. All Christians cannot be gathered in one great conclave. Such conclaves must always be representative of the great mass of Christians. But all local Christians should be gathered in one place. The church house is the logical place. And yet it is the unusual, the exception to the rule,

that a church house is sufficiently large to seat its membership if they should all gather at one time.

Another display of the wares of the church is that of prayer and supplication. This is something of which other enterprises have no knowledge and exercise. The church depends upon Divine capital coupled with personal consecration. Prayer is the tie that binds the two into union. The prayerless church is as unsightly as a bargain counter after the rush of shoppers.

### The Salesmen

Who are the salesmen for the wares of the church? In a broad sense the individual members; in a more particular sense the specialized men and women, pastors, educational directors, music workers. These salesmen fill a particular purpose in promoting a market for the wares of the church.

Stephen was a man full of faith and the Holy Ghost. He sold the wares of the church so well that a murderer had his eyes turned from the gory of human destruction to the height of divine salvation. Saul of Tarsus became a salesman and missionary statesman to the point that the Kingdom was furthered over a large geographical area.

Is this season the one which fills the registers of commerce with the coin of man while the church is robbed of the character and presence of that same individual? Is this six weeks of intensive preparation for Christmas in the commercial world matched with the same intensive preparation in the church field? People follow the road of most persuasion. Is there a dread upon the church's part that the holidays will bring reduced attendance and offerings? Has the church been outdone? And if the church can be outdone at Christmas by wide awake commercialism, is it safe from Easter, Mother's Day, labor meetings, Sunday conventions, sales meetings and Sunday selling? Christ was denied room in the inn for His beginning. There is a danger that the church might be denied both room and prestige in the intensified commerce of this day.

# Kingdom Progress

## First Church, Fordyce, Places Fifth in Christmas Parade



First Church, Fordyce, placed fifth in the Second Annual Christmas Parade recently with twenty floats participating, each carrying out the story of the birth of Jesus, all non-commercial. The theme of this float was: "Go into all the World." The six children on the float were dressed to resemble the peoples of six other nations, while the children sang: "Jesus Loves the Little Children of the

World."

The children were: Standing at the back, Jimmy Woolf; back row seated, left to right, Mary Ruth Wood, Gracie Beth Hatfield. Front row: Jerry Hatfield, Philip Dansby, and Mary Louise Hornaday. Speaker, Lawson Hatfield, pastor of First Church, Fordyce.

Float Chairman was Mr. L. E. Hornaday, Jr.

### Ford Foundation Generous To Arkansas Institutions

Ouachita College and Arkansas Baptist Hospital share rather generously in the half-billion dollar grant to the colleges and hospitals by the Ford Foundation, according to announcements in the press, Tuesday, December 13.

Ouachita College at Arkadelphia, according to the announcement, will receive \$142,100. This is designated as a faculty salary grant to be in the form of an endowment and only the income may be used for ten years. After that it can be used for any purpose. There is no restriction on the use of the principal after ten years.

The Arkansas Baptist Hospital at Little Rock will receive \$168,800. The hospital may use the money in any program of improvement or extension of hospital services but not for operating expenses or services the hospital currently is performing.

Five Arkansas colleges, including Ouachita, and 25 Arkansas hospitals, including the Arkansas Baptist, shared in the Ford Foundation grants.

### Benton, First, In Stewardship Revival

J. W. Buckner of Crossett led First Church, Benton, in a stewardship revival, November 27 through December 4.

Pastor Bernes K. Selph states: "This was the first effort of this kind to be conducted by the church. Special emphasis and study courses of this nature had been held but no stimulating revival effort and stimulating is the right word. The results were most gratifying. The stewardship of possessions was presented in a sane scriptural way. The messages were warm, earnest presentations of this truth. Christian privileges, responsibilities and obligations were presented to the church in such a way as to help it see these things in a new light. One goal during this effort was to double the budget offering on the last Sunday, which offering resulted in more than the goal set. The amount brought in was not as important as the spirit and response on the part of the people doing it. Brother Buckner can be of help to any church in this phase of work."

### January Graduates at Southwestern Seminary From Arkansas



Pictured above are Arkansans who will graduate in the January 13 commencement exercises at Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas.

Top row, left to right, are: Thomas Thad Walker, MRE degree, Hope; Mrs. J. A. Walker, ARE, Harrison; John Kenneth Robinson, MRE, Stamps; Glen Terrell Gordon, BD, Greenwood; Paul N. Mitchell, BD, Crossett; James A. Walker, BD, Harrison.

Dr. Porter Routh, executive secretary of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention will deliver the baccalaureate address for the mid-term commencement. The exercises for 128 graduates will be held in Truett Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Friday, January 13. President J. Howard Williams will preside.

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### "Thank You"

A letter received from Pastor W. R. Vestal of First Church, Searcy, expresses his appreciation for the communications from the Executive Board and the Arkansas Baptist State Convention expressing their concern and prayers for him during his current illness which prevented his attending the State Convention. He says in part: "We want to say to the Convention and to the Executive Board how their communications served to lift our spirits. While we could be with them only in thought and spirit, their communications came and we felt they were one with us, and we want to say through the medium of the Arkansas Baptist to the great Arkansas State Convention, 'Thank you and God bless you'."

Pastor Vestal suffered a heart attack on the morning of October 29. He is still confined to his home but is recuperating satisfactorily. The doctors assure him of a complete recovery. The Searcy church has granted Pastor Vestal a leave of absence which will aid his recovery and for which he expresses profound gratitude.

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### Mississippi to Conduct Missions Advance Week

One-night mission conferences will be held in the 75 associations of the Mississippi Baptist Convention in mid-January, state Baptist leaders announced.

Chester L. Quarles, state secretary for the convention, said 19 teams of state leaders will conduct conferences the week of Jan. 16-20, moving from one association to another.

Theme for the week is "World Missions Advance." Purpose is to make church members more interested in the Southern Baptist world missions program.

## S. S. Member Since Three Days Old



PHILLIP SELLICK

Phillip Sellick, four year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sellick of First Church, Berryville, has not missed a Sunday since birth. He was three days old on his first Sunday and at one time all other members of the family were ill with "measles," but a neighbor brought Phillip. Recently he has had a much needed operation but again he had the work done early in the week and was in his place on Sunday morning. He has the true Baptist Spirit. . . to be in his place on the Lord's day.

—J. B. Measel, Pastor

### Willingham Accepts Mission Post

Dr. Edward B. Willingham, pastor of the National Baptist Memorial Church, Washington, D. C., has resigned his pastorate to accept the position of executive secretary of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society.

Dr. Willingham is the son of Dr. R. J. Willingham, former executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. He has studied at the University of Richmond, Southern Seminary, Washington, University, and Union Theological Seminary. For two years he was associate professor of Bible at the University of Richmond. He also served Virginia Baptists as their field secretary, the Board of Missions and Education for six years. He has held pastorates in Lynchburg, Virginia, St. Louis, Huntington, West Virginia, and has for over ten years been pastor of the National Baptist Memorial Church in the nation's capital.

### MISSIONARY'S ADDRESS

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred R. Major, Southern Baptist missionaries to Brazil, have moved from Campinas to Sorocabo, where their address is Posta Restante, Sorocabo, Sao Paulo, Brazil. Mrs. Major, formerly Sarah E. Myatt, is a native of Modoc, Ark. She and Mr. Major make their permanent American home in Elaine, Ark.

### Subscription Analysis Arkansas Baptist

#### New Budget:

**Immanuel Church, Paragould;** Greene County Association; Emmett A. Pipkins, pastor.

**Arkansas Valley Association** has 13 budgets; one club; and 13 with neither.

**Ashley County Association** has 4 budgets; 3 clubs; and 14 with neither.

**Bartholomew Association** has 3 budgets; 3 clubs; and 20 with neither.

**Benton County Association** has 17 churches with budgets; no clubs; 7 with neither.

Watch for the analysis of the churches of your association in future issues of the **Arkansas Baptist**. We are publishing the analysis with the hope that it may stimulate other churches to adopt the budget plan of subscriptions to the **Arkansas Baptist**.

### Bible Department Gets New Building at Ouachita

The next building to be constructed on the Ouachita College campus will be the Bible building, according to an announcement by Dr. Ralph A. Phelps, president.

To be built on the site of the old president's home, the structure is estimated to cost \$218,000 by Bruce R. Anderson, architect.

"This building will fill a long felt need to house the Bible department which is in need of more adequate facilities," Dr. Phelps stated.

Featured in the building will be a 250-seat chapel for services of small groups and practice preaching by ministerial students. There will be a baptistry and six classrooms in addition to offices for the faculty of the Religion department.

Mr. Anderson stated that the figure should cover furnishing and air conditioning the building. There will also be facilities for radio broadcasts and electronic chimes to send music across the campus.

### Martin Luther Film

Ouachita College recently purchased a print of the 166 mm Martin Luther film, it was announced by Dr. Ralph A. Phelps, president.

The full length feature will be available to churches and schools and other organizations on a loan basis, Dr. Phelps stated.

### Minister Ordained

Cletus Colvet was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry by Coal Hill Church, November 20.

Pastor Richard Shreve served as moderator of the ordaining council. S. A. Wiles, associational missionary in Clear Creek Association, conducted the examination. Leland Hall, pastor of First Church, Clarksville, delivered the charge to the candidate and to the church. J. D. Seymour, associational missionary in Dardanelle-Russellville Association, offered the ordination prayer. Homer Colvet, father of the candidate, presented the Bible as a gift from the church.

Mr. Colvet is pastor of Knoxville Church in Dardanelle-Russellville Association.

### Hull Goes to Lavaca

Jack Hull has accepted the pastorate of Lavaca Church. He went to the Lavaca Church from Danville, where he served as pastor for two years.

## First, Ft. Smith Observes 5th Year With Pastor Smith

Special services and activities commemorating the fifth anniversary of J. Harold Smith as pastor of the church were held Sunday, December 18, by First Church, Fort Smith.

Honored guests for the day were all present and former members of the church who were members at the time Dr. Smith was called as pastor late in 1950.

As a prelude to the Anniversary Sunday, a five Sunday attendance campaign was conducted in Sunday school and Training Union during which all former attendance records for the period were broken.

The following marks of progress during the past five years were noted:

4,000 members have been received into the membership

2,063 persons have been baptized

The church membership has been increased by 1,716 members

Sunday school average attendance has increased from 1,150 in 1950, to more than 1,700 the past three months.

Training Union attendance has increased from 460 in 1950 to more than 800 the past three months

Gifts for all causes have totaled \$1,228,937.40

Gifts to missions have increased from \$26,762 to \$77,315

Cooperative Program gifts have been increased from \$12,500 in 1950 to \$52,000 in 1955

Additional church property has been purchased to the extent that the church now utilizes sixteen separate buildings for church activities and homes for the ministerial staff.

The church staff has been increased to fourteen full time employees and twelve regular part time employees.

Dr. Smith, in his anniversary message, challenged the church to look ahead and not to put the emphasis on what has been accomplished, but on what is yet to be accomplished for God.

First Church is in its ninety-ninth year and special plans are being made for observance of the Centennial in 1957.

### A Word of Appreciation

A communication from J. M. Hitt of Moulton, Alabama, expresses his grateful appreciation for the privilege of working with Arkansas Baptists for nearly twenty years. He states that during his service in Arkansas it was his privilege to assist in the organization of twenty churches, to serve several churches as pastor, and to serve as associational missionary for eight years.

He remembers with appreciation the kindness of Arkansas Baptists and the help they gave him during the long illness of his wife and during his own illness which a few years ago forced his retirement from active service.

### Sponsor Gift Subscriptions

To "The Braille Evangel Magazine"

The Braille Evangel, Inc., enters tenth anniversary year with a drive for individual sponsors of gift subscriptions of its principal publication for numerous readers who are unable to pay the subscription cost; 3,000 sponsors are needed by January 1 to guarantee a new policy of "cash-and-carry" for braille printing service.

Persons who want to support one or more subscriptions to "The Braille Evangel" on behalf of its regular readers may write to Edwin Wilson, The Braille Evangel, Inc., Box 6999, Fort Worth 15, Texas.

# ★ ★ ★ Christian Horizons ★ ★ ★

By Religious News Service

## Graham to Conduct New York Crusade in 1957

Evangelist Billy Graham accepted an invitation from the Protestant Council of the City of New York to conduct a six-to-eight week evangelistic campaign there in the late spring or summer of 1957.

He told a meeting of the Protestant Council's evangelism committee, which extended the invitation, that he views the campaign here as "the number one challenge faced by my team and me because, in a sense, New York is the world's capital."

"If New York should experience a great spiritual awakening," he said, "it will have an impact on Christian churches throughout the world. Since, as Secretary of State Dulles has indicated, the spirit of Geneva has broken down, such an awakening is more desperately needed now than ever.

"We cannot afford another war and we have learned that appeasement doesn't work. So, the only answer is creation of a great third force, a moral and spiritual force that can sweep the world which is hungry for spiritual values."

Mr. Graham told the committee his team would move into New York no later than next May 1 to begin its year-long preparation for the crusade.

## Graham Opens New Headquarters In Washington

Washington religious leaders and high government officials extended a welcome to Evangelist Billy Graham as he opened new national headquarters of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association in the District of Columbia.

Completing a move from Minneapolis, Minn., that had been contemplated for some time, the headquarters of the Graham crusades will now be located in the newly-erected Pennsylvania Building, situated on Pennsylvania Avenue between the Capitol and the White House.

Jerry Beaven, executive secretary of the association, will be in charge of the central offices. He said future plans call for bringing all Graham enterprises, including those located at Dallas, Tex., to Washington. The Billy Graham Evangelistic Films office, with a staff of 55, has been located here for several years.

## Million Calls Made For Inspirational Message

One million telephone calls in slightly less than ten months have been made by Baltimoreans for the daily inspirational recorded message prepared by the Young Men's Christian Association.

The message, which is voiced by Charles Kujawa, a youth worker at the YMCA, is changed daily.

Answering calls with "Hello, we are glad you called," the voice reads a passage from the Scriptures or some other writing of an inspirational nature.

The inspirational service was inaugurated last February by F. William Stahl, associate general secretary of the Baltimore YMCA.

A similar service has since been set up by YMCA's and churches in other cities over the country.

## Says Argentine Government Will Guarantee Religious Freedom

Argentina's new provisional government will guarantee freedom of all religions and protect the rights of the Roman Catholic Church, Interior Minister Eduardo Busso said at a press conference.

He also said the government was considering negotiating a concordat with the Vatican to govern Church-State relations in this country.

"The regime of President Pedro Eugenio Aramburu will maintain an unaltered respect for the religious conscience of all, guarantee freedom of cult and protect the rights of the Catholic Church," the Interior Minister said.

He was outlining the provisional government's general program.

## Oklahoma Baptists Secure Site For Medical Center

Baptists will build a \$15 million medical center, including a 500-bed hospital, on a 60-acre tract at the northwest edge of Oklahoma City.

After several months of exhaustive search for a proper location, the hospital committee of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma announced that the site had been secured.

First unit of the hospital, costing \$2 million, will be erected on 17 acres of the land. It will contain 200 beds.

Another 40 acres will be the site of a Golden Age home for elderly people, nurses home, staff housing, a technical and professional area and an "atomic" medical laboratory.

A Baptist church will be built on the remaining three acres.

Leroy Smith, Oklahoma City developer who donated part of the land, announced that he would erect an \$8 million professional center and shopping district directly across the street from the hospital.

The hospital site is located on a major traffic artery about 12 minutes from downtown Oklahoma City. Other major hospitals are 10 minutes away.

## Ashville, N. C. to Hold 'Billy Graham' Day

Mayor Earl W. Eller proclaimed December 22 as "Billy Graham Day" to honor the famed evangelist who lives at nearby Montreat.

The mayor's proclamation noted that Mr. Graham "hails from western North Carolina and has identified himself with Ashville for many years."

Dr. W. Perry Crouch of First Baptist church will be chairman of the observance. Mr. Graham will receive a gift from the city and make an address.

## Graham to Leave for India Jan. 8

Evangelist Billy Graham will leave for India January 8, to conduct a crusade that will take him to Calcutta, New Delhi and other major cities.

Following the Indian campaign he will speak at meetings in Korea, Japan, Formosa and Hong Kong.

Mr. Graham will return to the United States before Easter and then go to Richmond, Va., for a crusade in April.

# A Smile or Two



"—and bless Mom and Pop and don't pay any attention to what Stinky Higgins says."

He: "I always do my hardest work before breakfast."

She: "What's that?"

He: "Getting up."

In these weeks when droves of students are going abroad on exchange scholarships, we pass on a letter written to Superintendent of Schools in Nebraska City, inquiring about same. The youth wrote: "I am interested in one of these here full bright scholarships and I wonder if you can tell me if I can't get a full bright one can I get a half bright one?"

A man wishing to buy a farm inspected one place and announced that he didn't like it.

"The house overlooks every acre of it," he said. "There isn't a spot where a fellow could get out of sight of his wife."

—Automotive Dealer News

The vacuum-cleaner salesman was illustrating his sales talk by repeatedly sprinkling sand on a piece of carpet and removing the sand very deftly with his vacuum-cleaner.

"Now, madam," he wound up, turning to one woman in the crowd around him, "can I interest you in buying one of our vacuum-cleaners?"

"No good to us," was the reply. "We never sprinkle sand on our carpet."

At a banquet the speaker had finished a tiring ovation and one of the guests exhaled a puff of intense relief.

"I'm glad that bombastic windjammer is thru," he told the pretty woman beside him. "To me he's pusillanimous, and a premeditated and deliberate hypocrite."

"Would you mind saying that again?" smiled the lady. "I might some day have occasion to use the words on him. He's my husband."

—United Mine Workers Int.

Back when letters were being censored there was a postscript on a letter from one young man to another: "Look under the stamp to see what's written there."

Naturally the censors tried to solve the problem, and finally one took 3 hrs to remove the stamp carefully. Written beneath it: "Was it hard to do?"

—Quote

## News From Baptist Press

### South Carolina Adds To Hospital Program

The State Convention of the Baptist Denomination in South Carolina is adding to its hospital program and is securing funds for a home for the aged.

The convention voted to construct an addition to South Carolina Baptist Hospital in Columbia, and to complete hospital construction in the city of Easley.

The Easley Hospital, of 65 beds, will be under control of the already existing Columbia Hospital. This permits unified financial support and control.

Dr. and Mrs. Percy A. Bethea, of Darlington, S. C., donated \$100,000 cash and over 170 acres of land on which to locate the home for the aged. In their honor, the home will be named Bethea Baptist Home.

The Baptist convention is raising funds to build the home at the present time. A. L. Gross, former director of South Carolina Baptists' retirement program, is superintendent and treasurer of the home. Applications for admission to the home are now being accepted.

### \$2,750,000 Budget

The convention will operate in 1956 on a total budget of \$2,750,000. The current operations portion amounts to \$1,257,400 and will be shared equally by the state convention and the Southern Baptist Convention.

General expenses of \$304,500 for the year are a priority item to be deducted before any other distributions are made.

Funds received after meeting the priority item and the current operations portion will be used for capital needs, 60 per cent staying in the state and the remaining two-fifths going to SBC.

J. H. Simpson, pastor, Ridge Spring Baptist Church, succeeds S. H. Jones, editor of the *Baptist Courier*, as state convention president.

The convention reaffirmed its stands against liquor and gambling. It adopted a resolution asking the trustees of Furman University, which is supported and owned by the convention, to abolish Greek-letter fraternities.

The university trustees earlier had forbidden construction of any fraternity houses on its new campus property near Greenville.

### McCall Will Address American Convention

Duke K. McCall, Southern Baptist educator, will address the American Baptist Convention when it meets next June 15-22.

The president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., will speak at the night session June 20 when time will be devoted to fraternal delegates.

Other speakers at the ABC's annual session include Howard Pyle, an administrative assistant to President Eisenhower. One of the most important items of business before the American Convention in 1956 will be a plan for reorganizing the Convention.

### Edmunds Heads Organization of Religious Statisticians

A Southern Baptist has been elected president of the Association of Religious Statisticians.

He is J. P. Edmunds, secretary of the department of survey, statistics, and information, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn. It is Edmunds' third term (not consecutive) as president of the group.

The Association includes representatives of many denominations which have statistical agencies.

### New Mexicans Pledge Church-State Fight

Southern Baptists in New Mexico, in action during their annual state convention recently, reaffirmed their belief in separation of church and state and pledged to fight efforts to link the two.

The state Baptist convention will encourage formation of chapters of POAU (Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State).

It also condemned all efforts to weaken the Constitution on matters of religious liberty.

"The year 1954," the Baptists were told, "was another year of progressive erosion of the free church principles which have been so fundamental to American initiative and to public life." This statement came in a prepared report from the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

(In New Mexico, Baptists have been fighting a recently-enacted state law which permits parochial schools to use public tax funds for transporting students.)

### Re-Elect A. A. DuLaney

The convention re-elected Arthur A. DuLaney, pastor of First Baptist Church, Los Alamos, president, and chose Fruit Ave. Baptist Church, Albuquerque, as site for the 1956 meeting.

In other action, New Mexico Baptists:

1. Adopted a Cooperative Program budget of \$350,000. Sixty per cent of it will support state Baptist work, the remaining 40 per cent going to Southern Baptist Convention work.

2. Urged Congress to be mindful of the needs of young enlistees when passing laws affecting the military.

3. Sent its best wishes for recovery to President Eisenhower.

4. Voted to erect a \$50,000 Baptist student center at New Mexico Western College, Silver City.

### Tarheel Baptists Speak On Segregation, Liquor

Three major issues confronted the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina at its annual session recently.

The questions before the 2500 Baptists were:

1. What about local church autonomy? This question resulted from the North Carolina Supreme Court's ruling last year involving affiliation of a Baptist church in Rocky Mount.

2. What shall be the convention's policy on segregation at state Baptist colleges and universities?

3. What can be done about the liquor traffic in North Carolina?

The convention adopted a constitutional amendment presented by its state secretary, M. A. Huggins. This change says that the state convention will never attempt to exert authority over local Baptists churches and groups.

In the Rocky Mount court case last year, the Supreme Court said the church's true congregation was the group who wanted to retain affiliation with the state convention and participate in the Southern Baptist Convention. A majority of the congregation, however, had voted to end these affiliations.

### Set Off Debate

The court's ruling set off a great deal of debate among the state's Baptists on the principle of local church self-government.

On the college segregation issue, the convention said each school's trustees should decide whether to admit students of all races.

## Counselor's Corner

By DR. R. LOFTON HUDSON

### Shelved Church Members

**Question:** At what age or under what conditions should the workers in our churches be "shelved" or denied the privilege of active service that they have prepared themselves for? The young people seem to be taking over the church, while the gray heads who have had the study courses, the clinics, etc. are set aside as too old.

**Answer:** Your question points up a serious problem. We will soon have from fifteen to twenty million people in America above sixty-five. The older people in our churches can be one of their greatest strengths. And many of them deserve more attention and respect and leadership than they get.

They, the older ones, need to be very patient with us younger ones while together we are learning how to keep on using them. Twenty-five years ago we preachers were taught in the seminaries how to provide a church program for young people. The seminaries are just now waking up to this new problem of "later maturity."

In the meantime, let the younger people lead. You led when you were young. Remember that holding offices does not constitute all of Christian work. Don't fade away, fire up. Do the visiting, the giving, the talking for good, the praying. Let the young voices sing in the choir. Let the middle age men teach the junior boys and serve as deacons.

If you do this, you will stay off the shelf and the church will go forward.

This procedure was taken recently also by sister Baptists of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

The vote to leave the race-education issue with trustees was about 3-to-1.

The state Baptists also declared they want a statewide vote on the sale of alcoholic beverages. The ways of bringing about a referendum were left to the state convention's general board to work out.

The messengers chose J. C. Canipe, director of Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute, Hendersonville, president, succeeding Douglas M. Branch, Rocky Mount. The convention will meet in Winston-Salem in 1956, in Raleigh in 1957.

—*Baptist Press*

### Methodists Congratulate Texas Baptist Standard

Texas Southern Baptists come in for some praise in a recent issue of the *Virginia Methodist Advocate*, state newspaper of that faith published in Richmond.

The *Advocate* refers to the Texas Baptist newspaper, *Baptist Standard*, reaching a circulation of 300,535, giving it the highest circulation of any daily, weekly, or monthly publication in Texas.

Comments the Methodist paper: "For such an achievement there must be a reason. In fact, there may be many good reasons. But one thing is sure, the Baptists of Texas believe in their church paper!"

Then, the local Methodist publication adds hopefully, "What if the Methodists of Virginia should suddenly awaken to the importance of their church paper!"

The *Baptist Standard* is published in Dallas. E. S. James is editor.

The only trouble with turning over a new leaf is that there's usually the same old bank balance.

With the increasing popularity of frozen foods more and more cooks are putting out the best meals they ever thaw.

—*Quote*



## New Book

The favorite inspirational poems of the Arkansas members of Congress have just been published in a book of poetry published by the University Press under the title, "The Congressional Anthology."

The book contains 102 poems selected for their inspirational value by 126 members of the Congress and by the Vice President and the Chaplains of the House and the Senate. Four additional Members contributed poems of their own.

Selections by the Arkansas Members are: "If" by Rudyard Kipling selected by Senator John L. McClellan; "Building the Bridge" by Will Allen Dromgoole, contributed by Representative W. F. Norrell; "Columbus" by the American poet, Joaquin Miller, chosen by Representative E. C. (Took) Gathings; Harry Emerson Fosdick's "God of Grace and God of Glory" selected by Representative Oren Harris; and "A Sportsman's Prayer" chosen by Representative James W. Trimble.

Representative Brooks Hays submitted a poem written by himself entitled, "My Office is a Chapel."

This anthology grew out of discussions in the Prayer Breakfast Group of the House of Representatives. Members of the group, which is affiliated with International Christian leadership, meet for prayer and discussion each Thursday morning when Congress is in session.

These discussions revealed that Members frequently derive strength and inspiration from reading certain poems that have special significance for them. They obtained the cooperation of a number of members of the Senate Prayer Group, and a sponsoring committee was appointed to publish a volume of poems to be submitted by the Members.

This Joint Sponsoring Committee consisted of Senator John L. McClellan, Senator F. Carlson, Representative Walt Horan, and Representative D. R. Matthews. The book's preface was contributed by these four members.

The poems are grouped under three main headings — "The Man," "The Statesman," and "The Poet." Poets represented in the first two groups include such traditional favorites as Browning, Bryant, Burns, Donne, Goethe, Gray, Whittier, and Wordsworth, as well as moderns like Frost, Millay, and Dickinson.

The official photograph of the Prayer Room in the United States Capitol appears on the book's jacket.

### Clifford Lyon Mission Pastor

First Church, Booneville, has called Clifford Lyon as full time mission pastor. He will move on the field early in January. For the past 18 months he has been serving the mission for Sunday services, special occasions, and revival meetings while living in Fort Smith.

Pastor Lyon is a graduate of Ouachita College and the Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. He will now give full time to the Southside Mission of the First Church, Booneville.

### Layman's Revival, Hot Springs, Nets 23 Additions

Pastor James H. Fitzgerald reports a week-end Layman's Revival held at Park Place Church, Hot Springs, recently which resulted in 22 additions to the church by baptism and one by letter. There was one other conversion, and one young person surrendered for special service. A group of laymen from First Church, Fort Smith, worked with the men of the Hot Springs church to sponsor the meeting.

## Arab Christian In Arkansas

By GIL GILBREATH

"A carpenter from Nazareth" studying at Baylor University is also a deputy sheriff of Logan County, Arkansas.

Ghazi Sakran, 20, whose family is now of the Arab minority in Israel, was reared in a Greek Orthodox home, worked as a carpenter in Haifa and Nazareth, was converted in a Baptist mission, attended a Baptist high school, and made his way by faith from Israel to Arkansas, is now studying for the mission field at Baylor.

From a family of nine children and of moderate circumstances, Ghazi went to work as a carpenter after he received an elementary school education. But after his conversion in a Baptist mission, the narrow horizons of his old life could not contain the new rise of energy within him.

After claiming an outstanding high school record in the Baptist school in Nazareth, Ghazi plunged into preparation for higher education in the United States. Enthusiastic friends and relatives helped him to scrape up enough money for ship passage over here. That was enough.

From colleges listed in Webster's Dictionary, the youthful Arabian Christian in Israel chose Southern Baptist College in Walnut Ridge, Arkansas, as his destination. He studied there last year and made friends among the state's denominational leaders, who helped to make it possible for him to attend Baylor this year.

It was after he had spoken in the First Baptist Church in Paris, Ark., that Sheriff Van Pennington deputized him as honorary deputy sheriff of Logan County.

A speaker with a first-hand knowledge of the Bible lands and customs, a warm Christian testimony, and a masterful stage presence, Ghazi has made more than 200 appearances before church, school, and civic groups since he has been in this country. He speaks flawless English, as well as his two native tongues, Arabic and Hebrew.

He was 13 years old when Palestine, one of five countries of the Arabic union, became the state of Israel. Eighty-five percent of his people fled the country, but Ghazi's family remained in Nazareth, which was and still is predominantly Arabic in population.

Now this is the predicament in which Ghazi finds himself. As an Arab, he is a member of a minority group in his native country; as a Christian, he is an outcast of his own people; thus as an Arabic Christian he has neither national, racial, nor religious identification with his background.

For that reason and because he loves the United States and the abundant life he has found here, he hopes to become a citizen of this country and return to his homeland as a missionary to work in the Baptist school that introduced to him a new Way of Life.

### First Church, Nashville, Makes Notable Progress

First Church, Nashville, was led in a revival meeting November 27-December 4 by W. M. Walker of Mena. There were 11 additions, 6 by baptism and 5 by letter.

Pastor Lonnie Lasater states: "We of First Church are enjoying a \$100,000 educational building completed and occupied in September. This building provides three nurseries, two beginner departments, one primary department, junior, intermediate, young people and an adult department. Now at last we have room to grow and to train the people we are already reaching."

## National Broadcasting Co. Features Southern Baptists

The National Broadcasting Company's weekly radio program, "Faith in Action," will feature Southern Baptists for the first four Sundays in January. They will be produced by the Radio and Television Commission.

General theme of the four programs will be "The Christian Home in Days of Crisis," according to Paul M. Stevens, director of the Commission.

Dr. T. B. Maston, long-time head of the department of social ethics at Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, will be emcee of all the programs. He is nationally known as a counselor on Christian problems.

Each of the programs will deal with the application of faith to the daily lives of individuals who have been successful in various fields of endeavor. Not all of those taking part on the programs will be well-known, but each will have been successful in mixing the proper proportions of faith in God with daily living.

The 15-minute radio program is carried by NBC's largest affiliated stations from coast-to-coast. For the proper time, check your local newspaper.

First of the series will be entitled: "Focus On Christian Youth." Being interviewed will be Mrs. Louis Evans, Jr., Hollywood, Calif., formerly Miss Colleen Townsend, star who gave up the movies to become a preacher's wife. Ted Perry, Bay St. Louis, Miss., 1954 president of Boys Nation, and now a Baylor University student; and Alvin Dark, Lake Charles, La., big league baseball player for the New York Giants.

Another of the programs will be "Focus on Christian Education," featuring Dr. W. R. White, Waco, president of Baylor University, largest Southern Baptist school, and Mrs. Waurine Walker, Austin, newly elected president of the National Education Association and head of the Texas Education Agency.

"Focus on a Delinquent Society," will introduce Democrat Senator Price Daniel, Liberty, Texas, and Judge Sarah Hughes, Dallas, juvenile judge, 14th U. S. District Court, as they take part in the discussion with Dr. Maston.

The family of Mrs. Joyce Graves, Carbondale, Ill., will be highlighted on another of the programs. She is the mother of five successful Christian members of society — Dr. Harold Graves, Berkeley, Calif., president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary; Dr. Allen Graves, Louisville, Ky., dean of the school of religious education, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Dr. Rachel Bodo, director of elementary education, Hibbing, Minn.; Mrs. W. A. Arnold, Jr., Houston, Housewife and Dr. James H. Graves, Grosse Point Park, Mich., psychiatrist.

—OO—

### Minister of Music and Education

Norman L. Lewis has recently accepted the position of minister and music and education with First Church, Harrison.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis have three children. They came from the First Church, Cullendale, where Mr. Lewis had served in a similar capacity. He also served as minister of music and education at First Church, Clarks-ville, and Walnut Street Church, Jonesboro. He attended Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, and the College of the Ozarks, majoring in music.

—OO—

What is to be our reply to all the attacks made upon the old Book? It is just to print and scatter all the more.

—Gambrell

# The Key That Opens Hearts

By S. L. MORGAN, SR.,  
Wake Forest, N. C.

She called to me as I came out of the post office, and in her tone and her face was a concern that strangely moved and won me. And the more because she knew me but casually. She was the young wife of a seminary professor, and she had heard that my wife was sick, and her tone and her look as she said, "I'm so sorry" moved me to the depths. It compelled me to feel, "Here is someone, almost a stranger, who really cares." Not in years, I think, had anyone so moved me and won me in a moment. All day long and ever since, that look and tone have sung in my heart with the glad feeling, "she really cares that my heart carries a burden of sorrow over my dear one."

## Won By a Tear

Looking back over a lifetime, I recall but one parallel experience. Our family had just returned from the grave which I saw close over the form of my precious mother. All the neighbors had said "Goodby," and "I'm sorry," all but one plain, kind neighbor. Her last word was unlike all the rest. She clasped my hand, and her voice faltered as she tried to express the sympathy she felt, and I saw a tear in her eye. That went to my heart, for it said beyond all doubt, "I really care." During all the fifty years since then I've remembered and loved that humble neighbor for the broken tone and the tear that said eloquently, "I really care and suffer with you!"

And never in all the decades since then, I think, had another so reached my inmost heart as did this new neighbor, who in a casual contact at the post office took a moment to tell me by a look and a word of sympathy that she truly cared. And I didn't doubt that at all once I had discovered again the key to human hearts.

## The Key to Unlock Human Hearts

The master key to human hearts is simply a heart that feels and cares. And that key is in the reach of everyone to possess and use. For God endowed each of us with a capacity to love, to feel, and to care about the sufferings of others. And by exercising it each of us may enlarge that capacity without limit. The woman of the tearful eye had suffered, and had learned through suffering how to enter deeply into mine and reach my heart. The woman of the post-office incident had been for some years the true wife of a pastor with the shepherd heart, and had entered with him into the sorrows and sufferings of his people, and thus had developed beyond most others her capacity to care and to suffer with others. And it had come to her that the devoted wife and partner in all my labors for 46 years was sick and could never be well, and it went to her heart.

## Heart-Hunger for Kindness

Perhaps there was never before so much heart-hunger for a little sympathy and kindness as now. In the words of the song we used to sing—

Do you know the world is dying for a little bit of love?

Everywhere we hear the sighing for a little bit of love.

A deluge of letters has come to me from many states, from Canada to the Gulf, called out by articles I've written on the loneliness and neglect suffered by the 20 millions of our old people above 60 years of age, neglect

too often even by their own church people. Since I am one of them, they are my special concern. I write about them with a sense of mission.

Raymond J. Jeffreys has written an intriguing book, just off the press, *Life Will Begin at 100* (Capitol College Press, Columbus, O., \$3.75), in which he cites high authorities to show that the life span may reach 100 years by the end of the century. The prospect is not altogether pleasing. Already our country has 14 million people above 65, the usual retirement age, most of them doomed to die before their time from the corroding sense of being idle, useless, and often a burden to be carried. Who can fathom the misery as these cast-off millions multiply — and with 10 to 35 idle, futile years yet to live!

## Letters From Old People

Numerous letters from old people go to my heart, and suggest infinite opportunities for kindness as we come to the Christmas and the New Year season. Many who read this, I trust, will have access to my Christmas article in December *Home Life* magazine (cir. 750,000), with its suggestions for "do-gooding," especially to the aged and shut-ins, one being to include in every Christmas card a tiny personal, cheery message.

Here are a few excerpts from letters coming out of lonely hearts: "I read your article on loneliness — the exact word to express how I feel. I prayed for years to be spared to care for two crippled sisters to the end. God heard my prayer. They are gone, and I'm left alone, and even my church people seldom drop in to see me."

From a devoted churchman, a man of culture, who had read some of my articles: "I live alone, and seldom does anyone from even my church come to see me, though they are lovely people. It would be such a joy if now and then some of the young people would come in with their sunshine." Later he came on a 50-mile bus trip to see me, just to talk an hour to one able to understand the loneliness of old people.

Letters come from a refined old lady of 88 in Texas, always in the finest cheery spirit, but always with the same answer to my inquiry, "No, my lovely pastor finds time to come not more than once in a quarter — and his coming is a red-letter day — and sometimes weeks pass without a visit from any of my church people." And she's not a grouch.

But here is the kind of letter I love to get, this from the head of an extension department in the distant Southwest: "I dearly love each one of my little shut-ins, and delight to go to see them as often as possible and do my utmost to send others to see them, for the dear shut-ins are so lonely and so love our visits!"

I deeply believe that the greatest sin of omission on the part of most churches is their neglect to provide definitely for an adequate ministry of comfort and encouragement to the aged and shut-ins. The children and young people hold the center of the stage, and rightly, but let us not leave the old people to pine in loneliness.

Faith does not stagger at difficulties. Red Seas, Jordans, are no more than spring branches when God calls and faith hears.

# Prayers, People and Things

By PORTER ROUTH

When a man sees God, sees himself as a child of God, and sees other people, then things always appear differently to him. It is a disturbing commentary on American life that the gifts to religious and benevolent causes are more insensitive to increased income than any other category.

This fact seemed difficult for me to believe but I checked back and discovered that in 1933, in the heart of the depression, the American people gave nearly 2 per cent of their total income to religious and benevolent causes, while in 1954, with a record consumer expenditure of well over two hundred thirty billion dollars, the American people gave less than 1 per cent to all religious and welfare activities.

When you compare the two billion dollars spent for religious and welfare activities in the United States last year with the nine billion dollars spent for alcoholic beverages, the five billion dollars spent for tobacco, the nine billion dollars spent on vacations, and the forty-five billion dollars spent on national defense, you have some idea about the relationship of things in this country in which we live.

With only 7 per cent of the world's population, the United States has almost 50 per cent of its wealth. We produce more food than we can eat; we own 29 per cent of the world's railroad mileage; 76 per cent of its automobiles; 51 per cent of its trucks; 47 per cent of its radios; 42 per cent of its electric power output; 47 per cent of its steel.

I am conscious of our need to meet the expanding program of my church and your church, and yet I cannot help but be disturbed by the realization that the per cent of gifts on an average going to all missions — state, association, SBC — has dropped from about 24 per cent of total gifts in 1945 to 17 per cent in 1955. I have seen the need for additional space for educational purposes and for worship in hundreds of Southern Baptist churches, and yet I cannot help but match world need with our own need when I know that we spent three times as much in the SBC on our own church buildings last year as we gave to all missions and benevolences in the Southern Baptist Convention, including association, city, state, and Southern Baptist Convention.

These facts are disturbing and yet I come back with you to the realization that we do as individuals, we do as church members, and we do as a denomination that which we believe is important and significant. That is the heart of the Cooperative Program. For the Cooperative Program is not a plan which the Foreign Mission Board, the Home Mission Board, the Executive Committee, or your state mission board uses to raise money from the churches; rather it is a channel through which you in your churches can respond more effectively to the commission which has been given to you. This means that there are no big churches, no little churches. For every church has the revealed truth, and every church has all the world to win.

—The Baptist Program

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There is the same inner poverty and bankruptcy of soul in the human heart everywhere. No slave for the outward needs of the social order is sufficient for the need of the human soul. It requires cleansing.

—Baker James Cauthen

## Tulip Plans New Building



Reading from left to right are: Dillon Lee, who donated land; Cecil Bowers, Mission Pastor; Garland Anderson, Pastor, Calvary Church, which sponsors Mission; Tom Poole, Asso. Missionary; R. D. Blackshire and Sidney Goza.

Tulip, the site where the Arkansas Baptist State Convention was organized, will soon have a Baptist church house under construction. A mission was begun there by Calvary Church, Camden, Garland Anderson, pastor. Cecil Bowers is serving as mission pastor. A ground-breaking service was held October 23 and they are now ready to begin the walls of their building.

All Baptists in Arkansas should have a vital interest in this undertaking. For many years the Baptist cause has been dead in this place where the Convention was organized. It is the hope of Garland Anderson, Cecil Bowers, and the Baptists of Tulip community, that a memorial building can be completed in '56, which will mean that a Baptist church will be established. Many of the mills will make contributions of lumber, and laymen will give free time in labor, but it will be necessary to raise several thousand dollars to provide tile, concrete blocks, and other materials. The Department of Missions is being asked for \$2,000.

Certainly there are individuals over Arkansas who would like to make a special gift for this memorial building, which will become a historical marker on the site of the Convention's organization. Some churches may be willing to buy 100 concrete blocks at 26 cents per block. This is an unusual case which should have the interest of our entire Convention.

### Methodist Negro College Receives Large Gift

Five colleges in Arkansas will be the recipients of \$685,400 from the Ford Foundation. We are glad to note that Ouachita will receive \$142,100. We would like to call the attention of our Baptist people to the fact that Philander-Smith, a Negro Methodist College in Little Rock, will receive \$143,200 but nothing was given to the

Negro Baptist College. The reason is that the Baptist college is not accredited. These two Negro colleges are near each other in Little Rock, and it would have been wonderful if the Baptist school had also been the recipient of a generous gift. The white Methodist of Arkansas have shown an interest in their Negro Methodist college. They have helped to establish it as an accredited college, and now this special gift is a reward for their efforts.

We white Baptists of Arkansas have probably passed up our opportunity of ever establishing an accredited Baptist college for the Negroes of the state. We suggested several years ago that a committee be appointed to work with the colored Baptists in strengthening Negro Christian education, but nothing was done. This year a special plan was set up to help the Arkansas Baptist college, but in the course of the year's operation, things have transpired which have nullified the program. It is a dark picture for the Negro Baptists of Arkansas, and we want to lay it on your heart.

### Season's Greetings

From all of us in this Department to all of you who read this column, we wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.  
C. W. Caldwell, Supt.,  
Department of Missions

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God marked the worth of man when He invested His love in him, and it is that investment that serves as surety for what man deposits of himself in turn.

—Austin Ingram

Praying is the biggest business in the world.

—Gambrell

## Looking Toward a New Day

With the coming on January 1, of C. H. Seaton to be associate Brotherhood Secretary, the services of the Brotherhood Department will be greatly expanded and extended. His coming will mean that the Department will have two men available at all times in the full promotion of all phases of both Brotherhood work and Royal Ambassador work.

Mr. Seaton will not be Royal Ambassador Secretary, although the major emphasis of his work will be the Royal Ambassador program. He will work on both the Royal Ambassador level and the Brotherhood level, assisting the Brotherhood Secretary in all the work of the Department, and helping to build the Brotherhood and Royal programs into one program, the Integrated Man-Boy program. On the other hand, the Brotherhood Secretary will make the main emphasis of his ministry the projection and promotion of Brotherhood work; and, at the same time, engage in all phases of Royal Ambassador promotion.

We are happy to welcome Mr. Seaton and his fine wife and family (2 R. A.'s and 1 G. A.) into the larger Baptist Headquarters family, and into the Brotherhood fold.

### SOME PERSONAL HISTORY

Mr. Seaton was born in Lonoke County, and grew up in Little Rock. He is a Baptist preacher, having been ordained by South Highland Church in Little Rock, in 1938.

Seaton is a graduate of Ouachita College, and attended Southwestern Seminary, in Fort Worth, Texas. While a student at Ouachita, he served churches at Toltec, Alexander, and Texarkana. He has worked in the mission program of Immanuel Church, Little Rock; and was for a time associate pastor of Mtn. Pine Church, near Hot Springs, and of Richwoods Church, Arkadelphia. Upon leaving the Seminary, he went to First Church, Sparkman, where he was pastor for five years.

About two years ago, he became Field Representative for the Bottoms' Baptist Orphans' Home at Monticello, from which position he comes to the Brotherhood Department.

Mrs. Seaton is the former Mary Nell Jernigan, of Missouri. They have three children: Calvin, 6; David, 3; and Carol Ann, 1½.

### The Reflection of the True Brotherhood Spirit

A Brotherhood is not a laymen's movement. Rather it is a movement which includes both laymen and preachers, laboring together with God at the tasks of the Kingdom, the church, and the denomination.

The leadership in your Brother-

hood Department is a reflection of the real spirit of the Brotherhood movement, as a layman (your Brotherhood Secretary) and a preacher (your Associate Brotherhood Secretary) join hands and hearts to labor together with God to build His work in the hearts and lives of His men and His boys.

### Pray for Your Brotherhood Department!

We of the Brotherhood Department earnestly request a place in your prayers as we seek to know God's will and to do God's will; as we endeavor to lead in the work with men and boys; as we work to build and project a program that is thoroughly spiritual in all its objectives and program of activities.

Pray for us!

### Special Brotherhood Mailing

Every pastor and church Brotherhood president in the state, every associational missionary and associational Brotherhood president have been mailed a special end-of-the year bulletin, combining the "Brotherhood Newsletter" and the "Ways and Means" bulletin. The information in this bulletin should receive consideration by Brotherhood executive committees (both church and associational) and by Brotherhood program Vice Presidents, as they plan the next Brotherhood program.

Make your copy of the bulletin available to your Executive Committee!

### Special Royal Ambassador Mailing

Royal Ambassador Counselors, pastors and associational missionaries have recently been sent a "Special Royal Ambassador Bulletin". This bulletin contains valuable information and should receive careful attention. Among other items of value the Bulletin carries a list of Royal Ambassador Materials and helps. Order blanks for these materials have been sent to Royal Ambassador counselors, along with the Bulletin.

### Greetings of the Season

We of the Brotherhood Department, Nelson Tull, Secretary, C. H. Seaton, Associate Secretary, and Mrs. Lera Stokes, Office Secretary, take this opportunity to wish every reader of this column and every Arkansas Baptist a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. We join in prayer with you that next year shall be the best year that you have ever lived.

Nelson Tull,  
Brotherhood Secretary

## Foreign Mission Board Reports to the People

### Missionary Appointments Go Beyond 100 for Year

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board appointed 10 young people for overseas service at its December meeting, bringing the total appointments for the year to 104. This is the second time in the history of the Board that appointments have gone beyond 100 during the year. The record to date was established in 1950 when 111 missionaries were appointed.

Executive Secretary Baker James Cauthen said there is every indication that the number of missionaries available for appointment will increase year by year. "It is realistic to expect that we can plan for a minimum of 125 appointments annually and as many more as God will direct," he said.

"We can say with confidence that Southern Baptists are experiencing a deeper development in missionary conviction than we have ever known before. We receive in the offices of the Foreign Mission Board almost daily letters from well-trained, experienced workers who are volunteering for world mission service. Increasing missionary determination is reflected also in financial support."

Dr. Cauthen said an important phase of the Board's work is to help Southern Baptists understand the facts about finances needed for the foreign mission enterprise.

"It is constantly necessary to keep before Southern Baptists the fact that personal support of missionaries is only a part of our total commitment," he said. "Funds for the operating expenses of 511 schools, 23 seminaries, 48 hospitals, clinics, and dispensaries, nine publishing centers, and other branches of work call for large amounts annually. In addition capital funds for buildings and equipment must be provided."

Dr. Cauthen said it is also necessary that the Board help Southern Baptists to understand the reasons for having any funds in hand. He explained: "One third of the funds in the hands of the Foreign Mission Board consists of amounts left in trust, only the interest of which can be used. One third represents money definitely appropriated and in process of being used. One third represents the emergency reserve which is adequate to cover only six months of current operations. Needs we face are far in excess of our resources. More than \$2,000,000 of urgent requests from the Missions for 1956 have no possibility of being met."

### December Appointees Are Examples of God's Leading

The 10 young people appointed missionaries at the December meeting of the Board are representative of the well-trained, experienced Southern Baptist leaders who are volunteering for world

mission service. Dr. and Mrs. Howard D. Olive are members of First Baptist Church, Auburn, Ala.

Mrs. Olive said: "It seems to me that I've had the happiest life of anyone; and I had never known envy until foreign missionaries on their first furlough became members of our church in the summer of 1954."

Dr. and Mrs. C. Winfield Applewhite, of Statesville, N. C., will leave a growing private surgical practice and take their three little daughters to Indonesia.

Mrs. Pauline Jackson will leave the Chilton County Hospital, Clanton, Ala., where she is acting director of nurses, to answer an emergency call for nurses in Southern Rhodesia. Miss Fanny Louise Starns, secretary in the registrar's office at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, will go to Thailand to do secretarial work at the Baptist Mission headquarters in Bangkok.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Barry Mitchell will go from the pastorate of the Eureka Baptist Church, Anderson, S. C., to serve in the North Brazil Mission.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Dan Sprinkle, Jr., of Dallas, Tex., will go to Argentina. Mr. Sprinkle was pastor of the Slaty Creek Baptist Church, Prentiss, Ky., until August, this year. He said it was while "preaching" his Sunday sermon to himself that the call to foreign mission service "struck home."

Mrs. Sprinkle, formerly LaVora Murfin, is a product of the home mission program of Southern Baptists. At the age of 13 she became interested in attending the Rachel Sims Mission in New Orleans. "I saw Christian love in action," she said. "Tremendous is the influence that mission has had on my family as through the years my Catholic mother and brother and my father, who claimed no faith, have accepted Christ and been baptized through the work of the missionaries there."

### Africa

Dr. George W. Sadler, the Board's secretary for Africa, Europe, and the Near East, said in his report that perhaps in no other part of the world can Christian education play such an important part in shaping the destiny of this and succeeding generations as in Africa.

"The more we hear about Africa, the more convinced we are that many parts of that vast continent are in a state of revolution," he said. "Some of us are of the opinion that the forward movement is at too fast a pace. At the same time, there is nothing we can do to stem the tide.

"That being the case, we should do our utmost to spiritualize the revolutionary process. Christianity took the lead in awakening the peoples of Africa not only to their lost estate but also to their possi-

## Christ and the Campus

"College enrollment is expected to double in the next fifteen years, 1956-70. Colleges and universities will have to add more teachers in the next fifteen years than all previous histories combined." This startling estimate is based on special studies made by the Fund for the Advancement of American Education.

If this estimate proves accurate as we believe it will, Southern Baptists will then have nearly half a million students in some type of a college or university. If present trends continue, over 80% of these young people will be in state, municipal, and private schools. This means that the ministry of the Baptist Student Union on every college campus will be increasingly crucial year after year.

These choice college men and women fill our pulpits, staff our churches, and serve on the foreign field. They edit our daily papers, teach our children, decide civic and governmental policy, and cope with religious, social, and moral issues. They are a strategic group and face a tremendous responsi-

bilities as sons and daughters of God. They took us seriously when we told them they were the salt of the earth and the light of the world. They take us seriously now when we tell them they must grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus if they are to fulfill their destiny as citizens of a new Africa."

### Argentina

In the absence of Dr. Frank K. Means, secretary for Latin America, Dr. S. Herbert Cockburn, Southern Baptist missionary who teaches Greek and New Testament in the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Buenos Aires, Argentina, spoke briefly. He said:

"A reflection of the cosmopolitan melting pot represented by today's Argentina can be seen in the student body of the seminary which includes representatives from Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, Chile, Peru, and Brazil, as well as Argentina. The racial origin of the families represented by students and teaching staffs includes Spanish, Italian, German, Russian, Guarani Indian, French, United States, Arabian, Turkish, and Canadian elements."

"Latin America is growing a new indigenous culture in which there is a nostalgic pleasure being revived in the colorful and picturesque aspects of local 'folklore'; but the dominant preoccupation everywhere seems to be for constantly higher standards of economic living with a consequent and parallel forgetfulness of truly spiritual values. It is at this point that the mission enterprise enters with the joyous assurance that it has the answer for the soul's inner quest for true and abiding satisfaction."

bility to shape America and the world of tomorrow. We have no choice but to conserve them for Christ and develop them for Christian leadership.

For over thirty-five years the Baptist Student Union movement has been the denomination's agency and the arm of the local church that reaches out on the campus and presents a program of Christ-centered thinking and living and channels the college student to the church (es) in the college community. The convention-wide Student Retreat at Ridgecrest and Glorietta, the State Student Conventions and Retreats deepen student commitments and expand their vision of Christ. Moreover, the Baptist Student Union has reached thousands of unsaved collegiates and foreign students enrolled in all types of colleges and universities.

The ministry of the Baptist Student Union in our Baptist schools has been a real factor in the spiritual and moral development of their students. The B. S. U. sponsored Focus Weeks have centered the attention of the students on their Faith and its practical relation to everyday life. On the non-Baptist school campus the ministry of the B. S. U. has been, and is, increasingly significant. Student response has been astounding.

The Foreign Mission Board reports from a comprehensive study that 46.5% of the actual number of missionaries now under appointment attended other than a Baptist college. Our seminaries report that an increasing number of seminary students were influenced in their decision for full-life Christian vocations through the Baptist Student Union. One state, perhaps typical, reports 37.5% of its male seminary students were from non-Baptist colleges. Moreover, most of these young seminary students went to college with no thought of a Church-related vocation but came under the influence of the warm spiritual atmosphere of the B. S. U. This is not to mention the scores of thousands of men and women in lay vocations who were reached or conserved for Christ through the Baptist Student Union.

We must not graduate these keen minds without insight into the spiritual needs of men and a dedication to meet those needs. To this end the Baptist Student Union Movement is dedicated as it relates the student to his church at college and presents a campus program of evangelism, worship, study, and missions.

It is strongly hoped that every church will plan a "Student Night at Christmas" program for December 25. This can do much to inform every member of the work of the B. S. U.

## Food Anonymous

These lines are written in hopes that others might not become, as I have, a hopeless food addict. As I look back now I realize too late how "having just one more meal" has brought me to where I am no longer able to do without it.

My parents learned while I was a baby that eventually I would have my way and had to be fed. I was "up in arms" if I didn't receive nourishment on time. Sometimes I feel that I have turned out as I have—just living from meal to meal—because of immaturity.

Thinking back over my life, I believe that I took the first steps toward becoming a charter member of Food Anonymous when I became a preacher. They called me, "the boy preacher." I was not quite forty at the time. Friends were so proud of me. And really the years since have been the happiest of my life. But living on the income that I have received, and this is my only resource, I have gotten to the place where I look forward with great anticipation to pay day.

### Just a Bad Habit!

Because of the habit formed earlier in life, of eating every day—soon after my check is received, it has all been spent, and you know the one place that gets most of it, the grocery store. As I became more and more hopelessly entangled to satisfy my craving for food, I would find myself in my car going to the store. You understand, of course, I have to have a car. Our church wouldn't consider a pastor who didn't have an automobile. As I approach the store, sometimes I try to ease my conscience by saying, "This will be the last one. I'll get a hold of myself. I'll show them, I can quit any time I want to." But I never do. It is the same old story next time. Before entering, I straighten up, stride resolutely up to the clerk and greet him with a smile. He knows I can't quit and he is always glad to see me. Underneath it all though I feel crushed by the futility of it, that I have to have another meal. Other customers in the store are busy trying to decide on what to eat. One will say, "Oh, my family is so tired of T-bone steaks, I'm afraid to take them home, but they do look good." And I think, "Poor soul, you don't realize it but you, too, are a slave to food."

Arriving at home, the children crowd around with eager faces and ask, "What kind of beans did you get this time, daddy?" It's fun having them guess, brown, white, green, yellow. It is the children that I feel sorry for. To my shame, I admit that I have even spent the money they have received from baby sitting, for just one more meal. It may be only a quart of milk or a loaf of

bread, but I have to have it. "This is just a loan," I'll say, as I borrow from my children. At first they were happy to let me have it, but now they just cast a sympathizing glance at me or quietly lower their eyes. They, too, know I cannot any longer help myself.

### That's Mighty Low

One time I went so far as to try to open their piggy bank. But I am thankful I was able to control my desire for food and put it down. Besides, I couldn't find the screwdriver. On occasions I have sunk so low that I have actually used money that should have gone for shoes for the children, in order to get just one more sack of groceries. My conscience bothers me when I see the girls wearing handed down dresses, and the boys wearing patched blue jeans. And my wife, bless her, she still has faith in my ability, though she hasn't had any material for a new dress since nylon was a tooth brush.

Recently, she was so pleased with what I came home in. The kids were happy and excited, too, yelling and swarming out of the house, screaming, "Daddy has a new car but it was a 1939 popular model with a 1955 battery and 1956-57 payments. Inwardly, I still get a warm feeling recalling when my wife found out it has a self-starter. With the trace of a satisfied smile we exchanged glances. It seemed that all of her years of faith in me had suddenly been justified. Though it was a popular model, since getting used to it, I feel that its popularity at times was not deserved.

The intense desire for edibles has driven me to snatching the food section of the newspaper. Methodically all the bargains are listed and I have found myself mumbling incoherently as I hit the road on another food hunting spree. Mine must be one of the worst cases facing Food Anonymous. Not only do I have the "chain" habit but the independent food store habit as well.

### Egotistic, Too

Before mealtime, in spite of the fact that I keep telling myself as I rationalize "I'm a good fellow, I'm all right," I realize that I am grouchy and grumpy. As the pangs of hunger, real or imagined, strike me, I become restless and short tempered and yell out, "When is supper going to be ready? You ought to have had those clothes wrung out a long time ago." Afterwards remorse sets in and I am ashamed. Perhaps that is why I am sharing this with you. After or even during the meal I begin to feel pepped up again and I laugh and carry on in a jovial mood and become very talkative. As the hours go by, though, I feel the same crav-

## Merry Christmas to All

*On behalf of the Arkansas Baptist Foundation, we who are charged with the management of this department of Arkansas Baptist work, extend to all of you, our Baptist friends and others, our very hearty Christmas greetings and good wishes. We wish that all may have a happy and joyous holiday season, and that each of us will appreciate and enjoy the real meaning of Christmas.*

*We also express the hope that we may all face the New Year with a large measure of Christian faith and courage, humbly and reverently "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith" for His guidance and direction of our lives and activities during 1956.*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY,

W. A. Jackson.

ing for food coming on again. It is not only a masterful habit but it is contagious, too. I dread to think of it but I believe the children already are incurably "food addicts."

Most of my hours I spend trying not to think about food, but to work among the members of my church, ministering to them. Our church is an average church. Some of our members are very poor. In fact, more than one family has only a one channel television antenna.

Recently, I visited a home during a touching scene. The father was trying to explain why he had only a set with a twenty-one inch screen. I nodded understandingly. And we have some members who actually do not know where the next payment is coming from for their air conditioner. It is deplorable. Of course, I know where it is coming from, their tithe!

Food! Here we are back to food. On one occasion I spent the money that should have gone to pay the electric bill. I promised I would never do that again. That's what I told their employee who later came to my house to collect.

If you, too, realize you can no longer control your craving for food, I ask if you have a hobby? I had one of feeding my pet ulcer. Frankly, I'd rather be a food muncher. If you have tried without success to give up the expensive eating habit and if our church doesn't adopt the new budget increasing all gifts to outside causes and provide more for

the pastor's inside causes, how about you and I meeting to organize "Food Anonymous?" Shall we meet at the church? And for the first meeting, how about a pot luck dinner with all the trimmings? Remember, it's for Food Anonymous.

*—The author requests that his name be withheld.*

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### Living it Up

By CHARLES A. WELLS

Having a good time is an important part of any balanced, wholesome life. But when individuals launch forth on an unrestricted good time, squandering their resources, ignoring all else, we say they are "living it up."

But there is another kind of "living it up" that is equally filled with excitement and activity. We recently met a young doctor who has just returned for further study after several years of service in a hospital in Asia where he often performs more operations in one day than many doctors in this country perform in a month.

We know a young Jesuit who is stationed in the jungles of Central America where he teaches single-handed more pupils than would ordinarily be found in an entire grade school.

Many more young moderns — teachers, nurses, agricultural experts — are "living it up" in a constructive but thrilling way. When their lives have been completed, their treasurers of experience will be rich beyond measure, especially by contrast to the lives of those who "live it up" in the narrow paths of self enjoyment.

# Children's Page

## Unexpected Guests For Christmas

By MABEL NIEDERMEYER McCAW

It was Christmas Eve. Susan stood staring out the front window of her home. The snow was still falling, adding to the drifts on either side of their driveway.

"Cheer up, Sis," said ten-year-old brother Ronnie from his station at the radio. "There is no use spoiling Christmas just because we have had a snowstorm and cannot go to Grandma's."

"But we don't even have a tree," wailed Susan. "And we did not make any Christmas cookies because Grandma said she was taking care of all that."

"Guess we can get along without a tree," said practical Ronnie. "And there is still time to make cookies."

Just then an announcement over the radio caught Ronnie's attention.

"Pardon this interruption," the announcer was saying. "But several families have been brought into the city from their stranded automobiles on the highway. Perhaps there are some families who would like to take them into their homes for Christmas. If so, call 6-6751, and we will be glad to put you in touch with your unexpected guests. Remember the number, 6-6751."

"6-6751," Ronnie repeated. Then he dashed to the kitchen.

"Mother! Mother!" he called. "Did you hear that? Some families have been stranded by the storm. Let's invite one of them to have Christmas with us. Say yes, Mother. Please."

Just then a car drove into their driveway, and Susan came bounding into the kitchen.

"He got one! He got one!" she cried, running to open the door to let her father in.

"Got what?" Ronnie asked.

But Susan did not have to answer for her father came dragging a Christmas tree onto the porch behind him.

"For our stranded family!" Ronnie exclaimed. "We can have a family for Christmas, can't we, Mother? All we have to do is call 6-6751 and they will tell us where we can find the people."

"Merry Christmas!" called Daddy as he shook the snow from his hat and shoulders. "What's this about a stranded family?"

Ronnie told his father all about the radio announcement he had heard. "Please, Daddy, let's have one of the families come here. I'll let them have my room and sleep on the day bed in the play room."

"Well, what do you say, Mother?" Father asked. "And what does Susan think about the idea?"

"Yes, let's have a family come," called Susan from the storage



closet where she was getting the decorations and lights for the tree. "Having visitors would be fun."

"I guess that is it then, Mother," said Daddy. "Unless you think it will be too much work for you."

"Why, bringing happiness to others at a time like this will be no work at all," said Mother. "Find out where you can pick up our family, and we will begin by having our Christmas Eve dinner here together."

Daddy made the phone call and received the name of a family having a boy and a girl about the age of Ronnie and Susan and a four-month-old baby. While he went to get them, Susan and Ronnie helped their mother get ready for their unexpected guests. They put clean bedding on Ronnie's bed. They put the room in order. At Susan's suggestion, they fixed up a large clothesbasket as a bed for the baby.

"The girl can sleep in the other twin bed in my room," said Susan. Susan put her room in order to greet her new friend. The day bed in the playroom was also made up for the boys to use.

Under their mother's direction, Susan and Ronnie were putting an extra leaf in the dining-room table when a car drove into the driveway. They all ran to the front door.

"Merry Christmas!" they said almost in the same breath as Daddy brought their visitors to the door.

"Merry Christmas to you!" came back in a chorus.

Then Daddy introduced Mr. and Mrs. Henderson, Jack, Donna, and baby Michael.

"This is so kind of you," said Mrs. Henderson as she shook Mother's hand.

"We are all happy to have you," Mother said cheerily. "The snowstorm spoiled our plans, too, so we will have a happy Christmas here together."

It was not long before Mrs. Henderson and Mother were busy in the kitchen making last-minute preparations for dinner. Father, Mr. Henderson, and the boys disappeared into the basement.

"I think they are going to make a base for our Christmas tree," Susan confided in Donna as they set the table together.

"Oh! Are we going to have a Christmas tree, too?" Donna's eyes sparkled.

"Yes, Daddy got it just tonight," Susan answered. "We can trim it after dinner." Dinner was a happy affair. The roast which Mother had prepared did not go quite as far for two families as it would have for one. But no one minded that. There was plenty of other food to eat, and all appetites were satisfied.

The women and girls washed the dishes and put them away. The men and boys mounted the tree on its base and put it up in front of the big window in the living room.

"It is the most beautiful tree I have ever seen!" said Donna.

Then what fun followed! The men hung the lights, and then the tinsel and ornaments on the highest branches. Susan did not notice when her mother and Mrs. Henderson left the group, but it was not long before she smelled delicious odors coming from the kitchen.

"Oh! Cookies," she said. "Christmas cookies!"

"Shall I turn out the floor lamp now so that we can have the Christmas story?" Ronnie asked.

At a nod from his father, Ronnie turned out the light. Then he picked up the Bible from the table and handed it to Father. The children sat on the floor in front of the tree, while their parents sat on chairs behind them. When all was quiet, Father began to read.

"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled—And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city . . . And Joseph also went up . . ."

Everyone listened as the old, old story was read again from the Bible. Susan looked at baby Michael. Having him there seemed to bring that first Christmas right into their own living room.

There was a moment of silence when the story was ended. Then Mother began to sing softly "Silent night, holy night . . ." and both families joined in singing the carol. Then, one by one, as was their custom on Christmas Eve, Father, Mother, Ronnie, and Susan each said a thank-you prayer for Christmas.

When the others had finished, Susan prayed, "Thank you, God, for our new friends who are with us. And for Grandma and Grandpa. Help them to have a happy Christmas, too. Amen."

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## CHRISTMAS

By MILDRED EVANS ROBERTS

Christmas, the beautiful glad time of greetings and gifts and fun, is the world's most wonderful birthday

of Jesus Christ, God's Son—so not just with trees and with holly,

and candles, and carols we sing, but with loving hearts, and kind, we keep the birthdays of our king.

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### Preachers Alert-Ready

There are 535 Southern Baptist preachers in Reserve in all branches of the services. An additional 281 Southern Baptist Reserve chaplains are needed now.

At least 94 vacancies exist in Army Reserve units and National Guard. An additional number is needed for the over-all Reserve program.

The Navy needs 104 well-qualified Southern Baptist ministers in Reserve.

Ready Reserves in the Air Force could accept an additional 65.

In the Veterans Administration chaplaincy there will probably be eight vacancies during 1956. Advance training is essential in this specialized ministry.

Basic qualifications briefly are: Preferably two years full-time, resident pastoral experience. The A. B. and B. D. degrees or their equivalent. At the time of receiving commission the applicant must have attained 21st birthday and not attained 34th for the Army and Air Force, 35th for the Navy, and 40th for the Veterans Administration.

On active duty we have 430. Our quota for active duty chaplains is filled in all branches. Current vacancies are replaced from Reserves requesting active duty.

For information pertaining to military write Chief of Chaplains (ic) Department of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Veterans Administration, Washington 25, D.C.

For denominational information write the Chaplains Commission, Baptist Home Mission Board, 161 Spring Street, N. W., Atlanta 3, Georgia.

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### CONCERNING GOD

Silhouetted against the darkness of deepest despair, As the dawn of new life and proof of His care, Is the profile of God and His promise of hope, Evidence of His love and measure of its scope.

—Austin Ingram

—000—

Every great enterprise has been the result of the combined efforts and energies of people who with their varieties complemented each other.

—Austin Ingram

# Season's Greetings

From the Department of Evangelism



DR. I. L. YEARBY,  
Secretary



MISS FAXINE JENKINS,  
Office Secretary

## The High Cost of Winning Souls

Any consideration of the cost of soul-winning must take into account the cost from God's standpoint. He gave His Son in sacrifice for sin.

We must also consider the cost from the standpoint of Jesus. He gave His life as a ransom for many. "He who was rich, became poor for our sake that we might become rich."

There is also the cost to the Christian who would become a soul-winner. This cost includes:

1. Complete separation from the world and sin, and consecration of life to doing the will of God.

2. It will cost the Christian agonizing and intercessory prayer. This takes time and energy.

3. It will cost the Christian love and compassion for souls. The people we will have to love and over whom we must weep in compassion, are often unlovely until they have been won to Christ.

4. It will cost the Christian time and effort to win souls. Time for study and meditation upon the Word of God, time for visitation and witnessing, time for bringing people to the House of God where they may hear the Gospel of Salvation, and time and effort to attend meetings and engage in conferences for information and inspiration in winning souls.

Yes, there is a tremendously high cost to winning souls. But when we think of the worth of the soul which will live forever, and of the eternal blessings that come to the souls we win to Christ, the cost in effort, which we are called upon to make, becomes insignificant. The reward of the soul-winner far outweighs the cost. "He that winneth souls is wise." "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever."

## Here are Some Comparative Figures of Our Soul-Winning Record in Arkansas Over a Period of Six Years

Year	No. Churches	No. Members	Baptisms
1950	1,031	235,306	16,367
1951	1,045	242,156	14,023
1952	1,044	252,903	14,948
1953	1,093	258,832	13,251
1954	1,136	274,661	14,693
1955	1,146	285,000	15,014

88,296

Ten Associations Baptizing Largest Number in 1955: (Two of these Associations show a loss, compared with 1954.)

	No. Chs.	M'ship.	Bapt. '54	Bapt. '55	Gain
Pulaski	75	32,557	1,644	1,737	93
Concord	37	18,801	1,003	1,087	84
Miss. County	38	13,191	860	854	(Loss, 6)
Central	35	13,904	617	787	170
Liberty	47	16,842	699	739	40
Tri-County	34	9,401	671	694	23
Trinity	29	6,129	498	654	156
Motor Cities	18	3,585	388	617	229
Hope	41	10,742	665	540	(Loss, 125)
Harmony	32	12,569	433	532	99
	386	137,721	7,478	8,241	763 (Loss, 131)

The above ten associations represent 34% of the total number of churches, 50% of the total membership, and 56% of the total baptisms for 1955.

Department of Evangelism,  
I. L. Yearby, Secretary

# Housecleaning is easier when you live electrically



# 1

LAUNDER LOTS—  
and easily—  
with your washer  
and electric dryer

# 2

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of hot water  
from your electric  
water heater



# 3

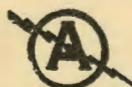
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HELPING BUILD ARKANSAS

# Songs of the Savior's Birth

By BURTON A. MILEY

Other religions have their chants but Christianity has its songs. It is known as a singing religion. The singing of hymns was apparently an important part of early Christian worship. "And when they had sung an hymn they went out to the Mount of Olives," Mark 14:26. "When you come together everyone of you hath a psalm," I Corinthians 14:26. "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord" Gal. 3:16. Paul instructed the Ephesians to address each other "in songs and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in their hearts to the Lord," Ephesians 5:19.

Luke records three complete hymns which were used by the early Christians and continue to be used by those in liturgical worship. The first is the Magnificat, the song of Mary; then followed Benedictus, the song of Zacharias; and Nunc Dimittis, the song of Simeon. Each of these hymns is known by the opening word or words of the Latin Vulgate from which they are written. The Latin Vulgate is the Latin version of the Bible. Another musical moment in connection with the birth of Christ is the song of the angels to the shepherds. There are probably unrecorded songs which the shepherds used because "the shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all the things which they had heard and seen as it was told unto them" Luke 2:20. These recorded hymns in the main are Scriptural in background. Today we are primarily concerned with the three songs Luke gives in his gospel.

## THE ANGELS' SONG

Luke tells his gospel story from the viewpoint of Mary. The delicate narrative is unfolded as the physician looks into the inner feelings and experiences surrounding birth. Before Jesus was the divinely arranged and humanly unexpected conception of John. Zacharias and Elizabeth were an aged, childless couple. Zacharias was one of the ministering priests. While he was on shift of duty an angel appeared unto him which frightened and troubled him. The angel brought news and announced to Zacharias that his wife would bear a son who would be called John. Time revealed the prophecy of the angel to be true and Elizabeth conceived.

Six months after her conception the angel Gabriel appeared unto Mary in Galilee and spoke to her of high favor she had found with the Lord. She had been chosen out from among all women to

## Sunday School Lesson

December 25, 1955

Luke 1:32-33, 46-50; 2:29-32

serve as a peculiar, blessed instrument. Mary was troubled by the appearance of the angel also. One is made to marvel at disturbance and trouble through the presence of the supernatural. The angel revealed unto Mary the mission for which God had chosen her. She would be the mother of a Son that should be called Jesus.

The theme of the hymn was to do with the greatness of Jesus. Two outstanding positions are to be filled. The throne of David will be this. Jesus was in the blood lines of David and would reign over the house of Jacob forever. However, His kingdom would extend beyond that of David's "and of his Kingdom there shall be no end."

This song was very unusual and left Mary puzzled. She wondered how she could mother one so great "since she knew no man." Mary was betrothed to Joseph. The betrothal was not a full marriage. Both parties had agreed to marriage. The families had given sanction and assent. The dowry was established. This engagement, as termed today, would end in marriage. But Mary and Joseph had not come together as man and wife. Mary could not understand how there could be conception even though she was favored of God when she was a single woman. The angel further instructed her that which she would bear would be not from the seed of man but from the Holy Ghost, Luke (1:35). Thus the virgin birth of the Lord and Saviour is clearly outlined by a physician who knew the miracles of birth. It is presented to all mankind as one of the truths from God's blessed Book.

## MARY'S SONG

Mary went to visit Elizabeth, Zacharias's wife, who was to bear John. The visit prompted and produced supernatural evidence of Mary's condition. The salutation of Mary, which was probably a congratulation to Elizabeth, caused the babe to leap within the womb of Elizabeth. These two women, both favored of God, yet one above the other, faced each other in the beauty of superiority over envy. Elizabeth's distinction was high. The honor conferred upon her was great. But she stood in the presence of one more honored and pronounced a benediction upon the "mother of my Lord."

Mary responded with her song. "My soul doth magnify the Lord

and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour." It makes a world of difference what people magnify. To magnify material wealth, creature comforts and luxuries, social position, prestige and power is to miss the way of life. No production should be carried on primarily with the view to monetary reward. If one is to find the way of life one must magnify God and His purpose of good in the world. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." Mary had reached this position and could see that God was working through her to (awe, reverence) of the Lord bless all generations. The fear would go from generation to generation.

## SIMEON'S SONG

The male child that was, a first-born was to be presented to the Lord at the temple when the forty days of purification of the mother were completed. Mary and Joseph, obedient parents that they were, came to the temple for these rites of purification and redemption.

One can imagine this humble, devoted pair walking to the massive temple which was 585 feet from east to west and 610 feet from north to south, according to Josephus. The temple was impressive in its adornment. "Its eastern front was covered with plates of gold which throw back the rays of the rising sun and formed an object of rare beauty for miles around. The stone of which it was built was white marble and large part of the side walls was covered with gold."

The people from a small provincial town entered this impressive building with a pair of turtle doves, or two young pigeons, for their sacrifice. An aged man ministered in the temple by name Simeon. He had a special understanding from the Lord that he would live to see the Lord's Christ, the Consolation of Israel. His aging eyes had watched many babies brought in on mother's arms, but when Jesus crossed the portal of the temple he knew that the One had arrived that he had long awaited.

His song has to do with his departure in peace because his eyes had seen the salvation for which he had waited which God had prepared before all the people. A light had come to the Gentiles

and a Glory unto the people of Israel.

What did the angels have above that which Simeon repossessed? What God has done for the mighty He has also done for the small. Mary was chosen for the mother. Simeon was chosen for the hour of revelation, and shepherds were chosen to hear the news first. Christmas will always be the theme for songs of joy and rapture. It has the right subject!

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## Preachers Wanted

The Civil Air Patrol calls for 210 Southern Baptist pastors to serve voluntarily in a missionary opportunity. The ministry is to 16-18 year old cadets and senior personnel; also during area emergencies. Time element is two hours per week. There is no financial remuneration, yet an opportunity to reach many men beyond the circles of church activity.

This organization is civilian rather than military. There are approximately 850 pastors serving now, of which 68 are Southern Baptist. Pastors interested may write Chaplain Albert C. Schiff, National Headquarters, Civil Air Patrol, Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D. C.

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# Executive Board STATE CONVENTION



B. L. Bridges, General Secretary; Ralph Douglas, Associate; 100 Baptist Building, Little Rock, Ark.

## "Christ of the Ages"

Some men are great in their influence for a little while and then their prominence begins to wane and they are soon forgotten.

Others sit on thrones to reign for a season and then abdicate or the throne topples, leaving them vagabonds or war criminals. The history of nations can be written in four words, "Their rise and fall." The historians have spent as much time in writing about the fall of great empires as they have spent in writing about the rise of world powers.

Nineteen hundred-fifty odd years ago Jesus came to this earth via a unique birth. That birth was the incarnation of God, who was from the beginning planning to empty Himself and become man's Saviour. Jesus stands alone in the uniqueness of His birth. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin. He is "the same yesterday, today and forever."

During Jesus' life time not many understood Him and certainly few realized or even dreamed of the influence which He would have on the world. We who live in 1955 know that He was not only living in the first century, but we know that He lives during our day. We also know that He has lived in every century to save people and make them subservient to His will. When individuals surrendered to Him they found His spirit flowing into their lives like living water from an artesian well. Through them flowed the most noble impulses of human nature. Because of this energizing by the spirit of Christ spiritual forces have been released through individuals that bless all mankind.

Jesus taught people by the thousands about a kingdom and wherever He went He heard people clamoring to make Him king. A word from Him would have kindled a mighty conflagration, but He chose the lonely road which led to Gethsemane and Golgotha.

It is well that we gather up our thoughts and center them all on Christ again this Christmas that we may see what His coming has meant to our world.

### His Effect on Religion

When Jesus rested in His mother's arms, the world with its burden of sin, in the throes of slavery, hatred, and disease, was as restless as the Christ-child. Down the sunset of that dying era there slanted the rays of Israel and her religion. There were many factors extraneous and hostile to what we know as Christianity. Yet, Jesus Christ blended all these ills into harmony through the sacrifice of Himself on Calvary. "God was in Christ reconciling the world into himself." In Him, law and love became one — by Him justice and mercy became known — Through Him regeneration and justification became real.

Jesus Christ cleansed religion of its superstition and pride. Worship, both corporate and private, became the reverent adoration of God the Father by His adopted sons and daughters. It is true that the Christian religion very early proliferated into many forms, such as the Ebionites, the Marcionites, the Montanists, the Novatianists and the Danatists. Even today there are many isms and schisms, but the good news of Jesus Christ is still being proclaimed. The New

Testament message still exerts its authority in the lives of individuals.

### His Effect Upon Intellectual Life

Every denomination has a plan of education that fits the needs of its members. There are today over five hundred denominational or church-related colleges which offer educational opportunities to one million five hundred thousand young people. This does not include the hundreds of seminaries where other thousands of young people are being trained to preach and teach the Gospel of Christ.

We should never forget that higher mathematics was developed by men like Isaac Newton, Kepler, Leibnitz and Pascal, who were disciples of Jesus Christ.

Scientists, such as John Flamsteed, who founded the royal observatory at Greenwich and catalogued the fixed stars, was also a preacher. Galileo discovered the isochronism of the pendulum, the first principle of dynamics, the hydrostatic balance, and he also was the first to find that the path of the projectile is a parabola. He was first trained in a religious school.

### His Effect Upon Literature

When we speak of literature we think of dramas, epics, histories, stories, poems and philosophical works. The New Testament was written by men who were led by the Holy Spirit to help us fix our eyes upon Jesus. They wanted us to feel the throb of His heart, know the bend of His mind and compass the orbit of His truth. With John, every writer is saying to us "behold the man!" Yet, the New Testament is one of the greatest pieces of literature known to man. You can find it in drama, stories, histories, songs, etc.

In Asia Minor the followers of Christ were largely responsible for supplementing the local tongues with Greek. In Gaul the Celtic vernaculars were supplanted with Latin. In Egypt the Christian scholars provided the masses with a language and literature that was much easier than the ancient hieroglyphics. Some of the most notable literature was devoted to Christian themes. Tasso's "Jerusalem Delivered" and Milton's "Paradise Lost" live on because they were inspired by Christ.

### His Effect Upon Art

Down the sunset of that dying era slanted Greece with her arts. But, when Jesus came He touched art and made it more radiant than ever.

In the catacombs Christian scenes such as the "Nativity" and "Jesus as the Good Shepherd" were often depicted. Beginning with construction of large church edifices, a revolutionary form of architecture began to be popular.

In Europe you can still see the artistic creativity inspired by Christ. The humorous and grotesque expressions of the artists were channeled into a new direction as exuberant geniuses gave themselves to divine themes. The Lord Jesus Christ has inspired some of the greatest sculpture, painting, and architecture that has ever been produced by man.

## Christmas Greetings!

If we are spiritually awake, thoughts too deep to be uttered in words will be filling our souls this Christmas. December 25 stands for the day when Jesus was born. It matters little that it is not the exact annual date. Sunday is the ideal day for the observance of our Lord's birth, because it brings the two great events of His life together — His birth and His resurrection. So, this Christmas we will be reminded that He lived on this earth and that He lives forever.

Let no Arkansas Baptist join those who plan to desecrate so holy a day by spending it in revelry. But instead let all of us wend our way to church, there to worship in reverence our God's only begotten Son who became flesh and dwelt among us.

This should be the prayer of every Christian this Christmas: May the day soon come when the good news of the love of Christ is sounded forth through all the earth. We want to take this opportunity to tell you (Arkansas Baptists) how much we appreciate being your servants. Friends, such as you, enable us to carry on through the Cooperative Program and thus extend the message of Christ to all the world. In the Christmas spirit, we want to wish for you and yours a joyous, pleasant and tender Christmas.

Let us tune in with the angel chorus and worship the Christ of glory, then go on our way through 1956 with a stronger purpose than ever to make the Christ-like spirit the ruling principle among us.

So, as fellow Baptists, we want to pray the prayer of Tiny Tim, "God bless us all."

B. L. Bridges,  
Ralph Douglas.

### His Effect Upon Music

Some of the greatest music ever written was inspired by Christ. George Fredrick Handel wrote much secular music and some operas, but when he was inspired by Christ to write the "Messiah," all of his other writings went into eclipse. Johann Sebastian Bach is known because he wrote some of our greatest music. His genius was touched by Christ and he lives on through his music.

### Coming in Triumph

The consummation of the divine purpose in Jesus Christ will not come until the end of time. Such Bible passages as Isa. 2:2-4 give us the direction toward which the purposes of the living Lord are all working. Christ came to the earth, born of a virgin, born in the likeness of man, born in the fullness of time. He will come again in power, in greatness, in splendor, in pomp, because He will come in the likeness of God.

Then one of these days when the clock of time is striking the last hour and all the man-made things begin to disappear, the battle fields will give up their dead, the pillars of this old earth will reel and rock, the sun will roll back and forth like the eyes of a maniac, the moon will bath the world in crimson red because it has turned to blood, then, we shall all stand before God. Jesus Christ will then be the arbitrator of our eternal destiny.

Then, oh then, we shall know how great Christ really is! — R. D.